

PROCLAMATION

Westfield Youth Assistance Week

October 5 - 12, 2013

WHEREAS, Westfield Youth Assistance (WYAP) was founded in 2009, and is being developed to include all of Hamilton County through numerous local programs, involving past and present volunteers, with the sponsorship of local municipalities, Hamilton County school districts, and the Hamilton County Juvenile Courts; and

WHEREAS, Youth Assistance has been charged by the City of Westfield and all its sponsoring bodies to reduce the incidents of delinquency, neglect and abuse through focusing on preventative services for youth referred to the program, rather than using disciplinary measures and adjudication; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Westfield Youth Assistance Program is to help children and families identify, coordinate, and take advantage of services, programs, or volunteers in Hamilton County or the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, Westfield Youth Assistance has served approximately 217 children and teens since inception in 2009; and

WHEREAS, with the sponsorship and collaboration of the City of Westfield, the Hamilton County Courts and the Westfield/Washington School District WYAP was endorsed by Indiana State Legislators Spring of 2010 when House Bill 1107 was passed. This bill allows county juvenile court judges to establish the Voluntary youth Assistance Program within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, building and encouraging community collaboration and service is an integral part of the County's future well-being and requires cooperative efforts by the public and private sectors, thus promoting, building a healthy community for tomorrow by investing in the youth of today.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Andrew Cook, Mayor of the City of Westfield, do hereby support and proclaim **October 5-12, 2013**, as ***Westfield Youth Assistance Week*** in the county of Hamilton, city of Westfield, IN and call upon all citizens to volunteer, be a role model, to help make a difference in the life of our youth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, J. Andrew Cook, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the City of Westfield, Indiana, on this 9th day of September, 2013.

(City Seal)

J. Andrew Cook, Mayor
City of Westfield